THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE N.V. RAMANA

W.P. No. 19051 of 2006

Oral order:

Assailing the action of the respondents in recovering an amount of Rs.12,082/- from the salary of the petitioner towards value of loss of tickets, the petitioner filed the present writ petition.

The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the charge leveled against the petitioner is one relating to loss of ticket blocks of his tray, and as per the judgment of this Court in **Ch. P. Reddy v. APSRTC, Hyderabad**[1], the respondents are entitled to recover only the cost of printing of the lost tickets, but not the value of the lost tickets, and as such, the action of the respondents in recovering the value of the lost tickets is illegal and arbitrary.

The respondents though filed counter, however, the learned Standing Counsel appearing on their behalf admitted that as per the judgment of this Court, referred to above, the respondents are not entitled to recover the value of the lost tickets, but are entitled to recover only the cost of printing of the tickets.

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Standing Counsel for the respondents.

Admittedly, in the instant case, the respondents have already recovered an amount of Rs.12,082/- from the salary of the petitioner towards value of the lost tickets. In **Ch. P. Reddy v. APSRTC, Hyderabad**, this Court in cases relating to loss of tickets, held that the respondents are entitled to recover only the cost of printing of the lost tickets and not the value of the lost tickets. In view of the said judgment, the action of the respondents in recovering the value of the

lost tickets from the salary of the petitioner, instead the cost of the printing of the tickets, is illegal and arbitrary.

Accordingly, the writ petition is allowed. The 2nd respondent is directed to return the value of the lost tickets recovered from the salary of the petitioner after computing and deducting the cost of printing of the lost tickets. This exercise shall be done within a period of three months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. No costs.

N.V. RAMANA, J.

Dated: 2nd January, 2007.
KSR

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[1] 2000 (5) ALD 93